

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-8. Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) An electronic endoscope apparatus comprising:

an endoscope including an image pick-up device for converting a subject image into an image signal; ~~and~~

a signal processing device for processing the image signal, the signal processing device including:

a first signal processor that implements a signal process of the image signal and outputs the processed image signal with a first output format; and

a first connector adapted for connecting the signal processing device to a second signal processor; and

an option substrate having the second signal processor and a second connector for connecting the second signal processor to the signal processing device via the first connector, the second signal processor ~~which~~ implements the signal process of the image signal and outputs the processed image signal with a second output format, both the first output format and the second output format being display formats.

10. (Previously Presented) An electronic endoscope apparatus comprising:

an endoscope including an image pick-up device for converting a subject image into an image signal; and

a signal processing device for processing the image signal, the signal processing device including a first signal processor that implements a signal process of the image signal and outputs the processed image signal with a first output format, and a connector; and

a second signal processor detachably connected to the connector, the second signal processor implementing the signal process of the image signal and outputting the processed image signal with a second output format, both the first output format and the second output format being display formats.

11. (Previously Presented) An electronic endoscope apparatus comprising:

an endoscope including an image pick-up device for converting a subject image into an image signal; and

a signal processing device including a first signal processor for processing the image signal, a second signal processor that implements a signal process of the processed image signal by the first signal processor in accordance with a first output format, a first output for outputting the image signal processed by the second signal processor and a connector; and

a signal processing section detachably connected to the connector, the signal processing section including a third signal processor that implements the signal process of the image signal processed by the first signal processor in accordance with a second output format, and a second output for outputting the processed image signal by the third signal processor, both the first output format and the second output format being display formats.

12. (Previously Presented) The electronic endoscope apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the signal processing section is provided with a substrate.

13. (Previously Presented) The electronic endoscope apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the first signal processor includes an A/D converter for converting the image signal into a digital signal, and the signal processing section includes only a secondary circuit which is insulated from the A/D converter.

14. (Previously Presented) The electronic endoscope apparatus as claimed in claim 12, further comprising: a connection detector for detecting a connection of the connector with the substrate and notifying a user of the connection, the connection detector including a connection detecting section that detects the connection, a character information generating section that changes a displayed character information based on a signal from the connection detecting section.

15. (Previously Presented) The electronic endoscope apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein the character information generating section changes a displayed menu screen based on the signal from the connection detecting section.

16. (Currently Amended) A signal processing apparatus comprising:

a first signal processor that implements a signal process of an image signal and outputs the processed image signal with a first output format;

a second signal processor, which implements the signal process of the image signal and outputs the processed image signal with a second output format; and

a connector adapted for connecting to ~~[[a]] the second signal processor, which implements the signal process of the image signal and outputs the processed image signal with a second output format,~~ both the first output format and the second output format being display formats.

17. (Previously Presented) A signal processing apparatus comprising:

a first signal processor that implements a signal process of an image signal and outputs the processed image signal with a first output format;

a connector; and

a second signal processor detachably connected to the connector, the second signal processor implementing the signal process of the image signal and outputting the processed image signal with a second output format, both the first output format and the second output format being display formats..

18. (Previously Presented) A signal processing apparatus comprising:

a first signal processor for processing an image signal;

a second signal processor that implements a signal process of the processed image signal by the first signal processor in accordance with a first output format;

a first output for outputting the image signal processed by the second signal processor;

a connector; and

a signal processing section detachably connected to the connector, the signal processing section including a third signal processor that implements the signal process of the image signal processed by the first signal processor in accordance with a second output format, and a second output for outputting the processed image signal by the third signal processor, both the first output format and the second output format being display formats.

19. (Previously Presented) The signal processing apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein the signal processing section is provided with a substrate.

20. (Previously Presented) The signal processing apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein the first signal processor includes an A/D converter for converting the image signal into a digital signal, and the signal processing section includes only a secondary circuit which is insulated from the A/D converter.

21. (Previously Presented) The signal processing apparatus as claimed in claim 19, further comprising: a connection detector for detecting a connection of the connector with the substrate and notifying a user of the connection, the connection detector including a connection detecting section that detects the connection, a character information generating section that changes a displayed character information based on a signal from the connection detecting section.

22. (Previously Presented) The signal processing apparatus as claimed in claim 21, wherein the character information generating section changes a displayed menu screen based on the signal from the connection detecting section.

23. (Currently Amended) An electronic endoscope apparatus comprising:

an endoscope including an image pick-up device for converting a subject image into an image signal; and

a signal processing means for processing the image signal, the signal processing means including

a first signal processing means for processing the image signal and outputting the processed image signal with a first output format,

a second signal processing means for processing the image signal and outputting the processed image signal with a second output format, and

a connecting means to which ~~[[a]]~~ the second signal processing means for ~~processing the image signal and outputting the processed image signal with a second output format,~~ is detachably connected.

24. (Currently Amended) A signal processing apparatus comprising:

a first signal processing means for processing an image signal and outputting the processed image signal with a first output format;

a second signal processing means for processing the image signal and outputting the processed image signal with a second output format; and

a connecting means to which ~~[[a]]~~ the second signal processing means ~~for processing the image signal and outputting the processed image signal with a second output format,~~ is detachably connected.